

Amendment to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGs. 1 and 5. The first sheet, which includes FIG. 1 and FIG. 4, replaces the original sheet including FIG. 1 and FIG. 4. The second sheet, which includes FIG. 2 and FIG. 5, replaces the original sheet including FIG. 2 and FIG. 5.

In FIG. 1, previously presented X-axis description “Wavelength ( $\lambda$ )” has been replaced with the description “Optical Path Length ( $l$ )”. In FIG. 5, previously omitted elements 108 and 110 have been added.

Remarks

Claims 1, 3-12, and 20 have been amended. Claims 2 and 21 have been cancelled. The amendments to claims 1, 3-12, and 20 have been made for clarity and not for reasons related to patentability.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his helpful suggestions regarding the amendments to Applicant's Specification and the claims, and for kindly indicating that claims 22-31 are allowable. Applicant further thanks the Examiner for kindly indicating that that claims 2-8 and 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Applicant has done this in the form of amended claim 1, which now includes claim 2, and amended claim 20, which now includes claim 21. Applicant retains the right to prosecute claims 1 and 20 in their original form in a continuing application.

Paragraphs of Applicant's Specification starting at page 2, line 1, page 11, line 8, and page 15, line 20 have been amended to correct inadvertent clerical errors.

FIG. 2 has been amended to reflect that the graph illustrates Absorption versus Optical Path Length (l), as reflected in the Annotated Sheet Showing Changes 1/4 and the Replacement Sheet 1/4, both of which are attached hereto at Tab 1.

FIG. 5 has been amended to include element number 108 and element number 110, which indicates a housing that includes the source of infrared radiation, as reflected in the Annotated Sheet Showing Changes 2/4 and the Replacement Sheet 2/4, both of which are attached hereto at Tab 2.

Claims 1 and 10-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Yelderman et al. (U.S. Patent 5,095,013).

Applicant submits that the amendments to claims 1 and 20 render moot the rejection to claims 1 and 10-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Yelderman et al. and request that it be withdrawn.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Yelderman et al. in view of Uno et al. (U.S. Patent 5,429,805).

Claim 9 depends from claim 1. Applicant submits that the amendment to claim 1 renders moot the rejection to claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Yelderman et al. in view of Uno et al.

The claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned should a teleconference interview facilitate prosecution of this application.

Please charge any additional fees that may be required or credit any overpayment made to Deposit Account No. 501,171.

Respectfully submitted,

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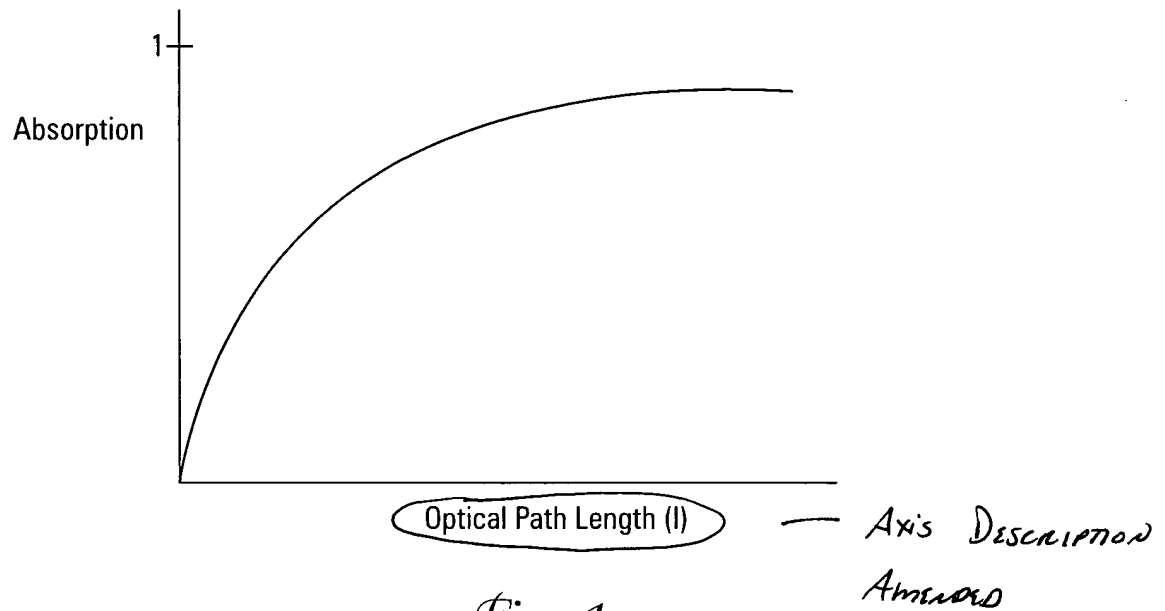


Fig. 1

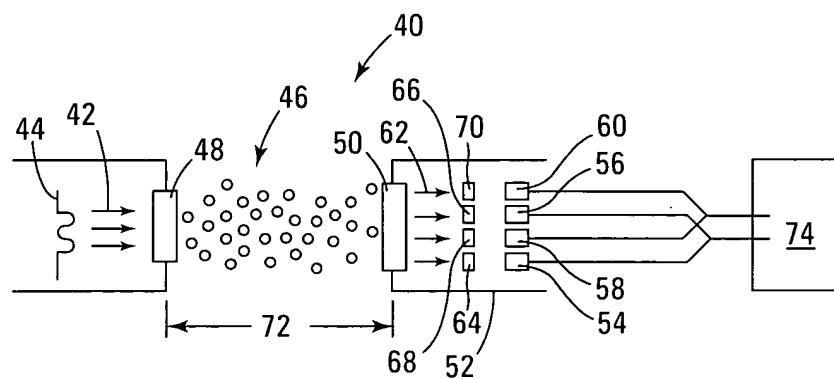


Fig. 4



Applicant: Patrick Smith  
Title: GAS DETECTOR  
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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes  
2/4

